EGUIDE TO THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE
Digital transformation is occurring rapidly across business and government. Today’s society is moving from a brick-and-mortar world to a hyper-connected digital ecosystem where an omnichannel capability is needed to meet and even exceed the expectations of customers.

Customer engagement represents a positive, value-creating relationship between customers and an organization throughout the customer journey.

View the infographic

To stay relevant, businesses must embark on digital business transformation to keep up with the speed of their customers.
Customer perceptions and actions are shaped by the amount of effort they must expend to obtain service. Government agencies must be prepared to provide services to citizens across almost any media and channel, from traditional to digital.

Following three years of steady erosion ending in an all-time low score, citizen satisfaction with the U.S. federal government rebounds in 2016, increasing 6.4% to 68.0 on a 0 to 100 scale.


The Significance of Customer Engagement: An Investigation into Customer Lifetime Value

Every interaction that a citizen has with an agency is consequential, as it contributes to that person’s overall impression of, and engagement with, the government. Read this Frost & Sullivan research to understand how customer engagement is critical to the concept of Customer Lifetime Value.

Review the research

Customer Engagement: From Interactions to Relationships

Well-planned and executed customer engagement programs improve a customer’s journey. This Aberdeen Group research study outlines the four building blocks necessary to drive engagement and explains how delivering consistent and personalized messages through omnichannel interactions can provide an exceptional customer experience.

Review the research
ARE YOU DIGITALLY TRANSFORMING THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE?

Citizens are becoming increasingly digital, using multiple devices on different platforms and expecting access to government services 24/7/365. But government also serves multiple generations with varying degrees of technical know-how and preferred methods of interaction. Regardless of the channel, agencies need to react quickly or they will struggle to accomplish their missions.

In addition to serving an increasingly mobile customer base, government is challenged with replacing legacy systems while lacking adequate funding, expertise and resources. Measuring the customer satisfaction performance of federal agencies also differs from the business world, where profit determines success. To be successful, government must provide a seamless customer journey that is as easy for the customer as it is for the team who delivers the service.

LEARN MORE

The Fundamentals of Digital Transformation
Government must embark on digital transformation to stay relevant, keep up with the speed of their customers and responsibly utilize public funds. Understand the challenges of taking legacy experiences into the digital world and the five key steps agencies can take to minimize disruption and boost adoption of new digital capabilities.

Read the eBook

Digitally Transforming the Customer Experience
The shifting demand from voice- to non-voice based customer service requires a transformation from what you have to what customers expect.

Watch the on-demand webinar

2017 Connected Citizen Report
Government agencies need to understand how Americans are engaging on a local and federal level so their organizations can provide the right tools to deliver higher quality service, faster.

Read the report
3 CORE PRINCIPLES OF CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

PROACTIVE, INSTANT
Exceptional customer service gets ahead of issues and resolves them before they become problems for the customer.

PERSONAL, RELEVANT
Memorable customer experiences are delivered by using personal information to provide service in a relevant way.

CONTROL, CHOICE
Automation brings value to the customer journey when it gives customers the freedom and flexibility to choose how and when to engage.
KEYS TO AN EXCEPTIONAL CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

Today’s digital citizens demand a consistent experience across multiple touchpoints. They want to perform simple tasks online, but when the need arises, they want to interact with a knowledgeable expert. They also want a seamless transition from one touch point, such as a kiosk or website, to other touch points including voice calls, online chat, SMS text or video. Avaya provides high-quality, seamless customer interactions with a next-gen multi-touch, context-driven customer engagement solution that offers:

- **Omnichannel Experience** addresses the challenge of a disjointed, time-consuming and frustrating customer journey.
- **Enterprise-wide Engagement** addresses the challenge of consolidating contextual data from disparate systems.
- **Actionable Insights** addresses the challenge of understanding citizen satisfaction and pain points.
OMNICHANNEL EXPERIENCE

Government call centers often have little integration or automation of channels “behind the scenes.” Some agents handle voice calls, e-mail and customer chat requests separately from other channels, sometimes outside of the contact center. This can cause the customer journey to be disjointed and frustrating. An omnichannel experience can provide customers with information in a personalized manner that is easy for both citizens and agents, regardless of the channel and number or type of touch points used.

LEARN MORE

Call it what you will: Multi-Channel, Omnichannel – It Isn’t about the Contact Center
The customer experience is not just about the contact center. Instead, it’s about seamlessly supporting customers across their entire journey regardless of where, when, how and with whom it happens.

Read the article

Mastering Omnichannel Customer Engagement
Great customer experiences can deliver huge benefits to services for citizens. Explore ways to maximize the channels and touch points customers use to contact you, and how to proactively deliver outstanding, personalized experiences for everyone.

Read the white paper
ENTERPRISE-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

Customer-facing engagement and support processes are spread across disparate departments and teams, each responsible for a different part of the customer journey. Agencies need solutions that orchestrate customer interactions by consolidating data from diverse systems and providing instant customer intelligence to help make informed decisions. Each customer interaction needs to have enterprise team engagement that is optimal, responsive, informed and seamless.

LEARN MORE

Executive Guide: 7 Things You Didn’t Know Were Possible with Self Service and Automation
Combining agent-assisted service and self service to create innovative, multimodal customer experiences.
Read the guide

The Definitive Planning Guide for Improving the Customer Experience You Deliver
Follow this step-by-step planning guide to create a strategy and roadmap to increase your customer experience, your contact center’s effectiveness, and internal return on investment.
Read the guide

Doing Less with More: How to Improve Customer Experience on a Shrinking Budget
How does an agency improve the customer experience while simultaneously dealing with a shrinking budget, a smaller workforce and maybe even a hiring freeze?
Read the article
Analytics allow government agencies to access and effectively use vast amounts of data in a timely manner to learn vital information not only about customer interactions and their experience, but also leverage and expand on things that the agency does well. This goldmine of information can help agencies to better understand citizen satisfaction and pain points to better discover and remediate troubled areas in real time.
Challenges:
- 1,600+ offices had individual PBXs and products that were near or at end-of-life
- Influx of Baby Boomers coming of age for Social Security

Solution:
- Nationwide network built on a cutting-edge Voice over IP (VoIP) telephony solution manages an average of 400,000+ calls daily
- Streamlines and consolidates systems, cutting costs by up to 50%
- Eliminates costly analog lines from a local telephone company

Citizens who are at retirement age, are disabled or have lost a loved one expect and deserve well-managed programs that provide timely and accurate payments. To handle an expected 33 million calls on the SSA’s National 800 number, the agency must implement secure and cost-effective improvements that modernize information technology infrastructure to keep up with the pace of citizen needs.

**IT and Telecom Modernization: A Converged Voice and Data Network**

The Telephone System Replacement Program (TSRP) replaced the SSA’s existing worldwide telephone systems with IP technology that created a converged voice and data network, enabling a high-quality citizen service experience. The result is streamlined field office operations, improved response times and service levels, higher availability, and lower cost of ownership and operation. The Avaya solution, which includes a 55,000-agent contact center with carrier-class unified messaging and comprehensive interactive voice response (IVR) capabilities, is able to:

- deliver faster, more efficient call handling through skills-based routing that matches each caller’s inquiry to the most appropriate agent, with a consistent, user-friendly ‘look and feel’ for agents
- consistently achieve high levels of customer satisfaction
- provide security capabilities that protect citizen information and support for disabled users
- enable redundancies that help seamlessly support contact centers in four regions of the United States and position the agency for the future with plans to increase the number of soft phones, teleworking and VoIP capabilities

Read this article about how Avaya technology enabled the Social Security Administration to process half a billion calls through a new, modernized phone system.
The number of veterans relying on Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) healthcare has increased substantially, even as the veteran population has declined. To successfully meet growing demands, the agency must address both aging former service members who often face chronic conditions and younger veterans with physical and/or mental health conditions resulting from recent service.

Innovative Solutions for Advancing the Quality of Veterans’ Healthcare

To better address evolving needs, the VA could benefit by streamlining healthcare delivery through a patient “anywhere” experience using technology that can support patient demands—from public and private clinics and hospitals to home-based care options.

- Imagine a mobile clinical collaboration solution that keeps providers, patients and caregivers securely connected 24/7/365 via smartphones and tablets so patients receive the right care at the right time.
- Patients can connect with providers to confirm appointments and ask questions through an omnichannel experience involving social media, web chats, video conferencing or telephone.
- Patients can receive care and proactive monitoring through mobile applications for intelligent wearable devices no matter where they are located—at home, on the road, or in a hospital.
- Rural patients can receive treatment using real-time interactive video conferencing, which can provide remote assessments and treatment from a team of medical professionals located around the world.

Read this article on 11 Ways Avaya Technology Can Improve Veterans’ Healthcare.
4 CRITICAL INNOVATIONS THAT WILL DRIVE FUTURE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCES

Government agencies must create an unmatched, seamless customer journey that is as easy for the citizen as it is for the customer service agent. With changing customer demands and needs, it is paramount that government agencies move not just to a digital world to serve the American people, but to a smart, digital world that incorporates these four innovations:

- **Extreme Analytics**
  - Provides powerful intelligence about a customer’s journey enabling the best customer experience, smartest agent and most personalized, predictive and proactive experience possible.

- **Artificial Intelligence for Customer Experience**
  - AI methods can enable machine learning to model customer language and dialog interactions, providing intelligent conversations and the ability to answer queries or resolve issues on any channel in real-time.

- **Intuitive Agent, Expert and Supervisor Workspaces**
  - Easy-to-use desktops are a powerful driver for agent productivity and customer satisfaction, delivering an engaging experience for both agents and customers.

- **360-Degree Customer Context**
  - Enriches a customer’s journey by enabling seamless engagement across all devices and channels, delivering a consistent experience for both the customer and the agency.
DELIVER THE EXPERIENCE YOUR CUSTOMERS EXPECT

- Multi-channel and multi-touch, plus a view of a customer’s contact path.
- Provides analytics and turns it into insight so your contact center becomes a strategic center.
- Can work with legacy systems—pulls data in from a variety of systems and integrates.
- Standards-based modules that can be put together—easy-to-configure snap-ins can be used in a variety of ways to customize your solution.
- Spend less time managing the technology and more time designing systems to move forward.

Customer Engagement Solutions: Driving Customer Lifetime Value to New Heights
Consumers around the world expect unique treatment and proactive engagement from companies they do business with. They demand a consistent experience across multiple touch points, both physical and digital.

Read the data sheet

A Pure-Play Digital Customer Engagement Platform
As pressure grows to digitize more processes from end to end, why fall behind? Offer your customers a truly differentiated experience—personalized services, with full context, across all touch points from one end of the customer journey to the other.

Read the data sheet
Avaya’s purpose-built single omnichannel solution gives you complete integration and management of your traditional phone and digital channels, letting you personalize every step and possibility of customer interactions with your agency.

Government agencies in 42 countries, including the national governments of nine out of the 10 largest economies, depend on Avaya solutions to ensure mission critical communications and system security. Contact Avaya Government Solutions today to learn how you can get started on delivering the experience your customers expect.